

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 273590

70
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 SAJ-01 OMB-01 IO-13 DHA-02 MCT-01 MC-02 /084 R

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APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT BAGHDAD

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

S E C R E T STATE 273590

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, IZ, SY

SUBJECT: IRAQI DEPLOYMENT ALONG SYRIAN BORDER

REF: A) BAGHDAD 1593 B) BAGHDAD 1645

1. INFORMATION WE HAVE HERE SUGGESTS THAT THERE HAS BEEN
LITTLE CHANGE IN THE DISPOSITION OF IRAQI MILITARY FORCES
OVER THE LAST FEW WEEKS. THE BULK OF IRAQI MILITARY UNITS
ARE DEPLOYED AS FOLLOWS:

LOCATION	UNITS
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H - 3	ONE ARMOR DIVISION
	TOTAL: 350 TANKS, 230 APC

HADETHA/RAMADI	EQUIVALENT OF ONE ARMOR DIVISION
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SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 273590

ONE MECHANIZED DIVISION (UNDER-

STRENGTH)

TOTAL: 528 TANKS, 414 APC

SINJAR/MOSUL EQUIVALENT OF ONE UNDERSTRENGTH

MECHANIZED DIVISION

ONE MOUNTAIN DIVISION

ONE MOUNTAIN DIVISION (UNDER-
STRENGTH)

TOTAL: 288 TANKS, 184 APC

2. TOTAL TROOP STRENGTH IS IN THE RANGE OF 55,000 MEN.
THIS DEPLOYMENT CONSTITUTES THE OVERWHELMING BULK OF THE
IRAQI ARMY ACCEPT FOR A SMALL UNIT IN BASRAH, AND
15,000 TROOPS SPLIT BETWEEN LOCALITIES NEAR MOSUL AND EAST
OF BAGHDAD.

3. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT UNITS ALONG THE SYRIAN-IRAQI
BORDER HAVE BEEN PREPARING FOR TRAINING MANEUVERS, WHICH
AGREES WITH PARA. 3 REF B.

4. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT CROSS BORDER TRAFFIC HAS BEEN
SLOWED AND INTERRUPTED IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS OWING TO
THE HEAVY-HANDED IRAQI MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE FRONTIER
AREA, BUT THAT THE BORDER WAS NOT ACTUALLY SEALED. KISSINGER

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